

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: wa5whn@ix.netcom.com (Jay Miller)
Subject: [770] 2/6/10 meters Open NOW !
Message-ID: <199607111733.KAA19545@dfw-ix3.ix.netcom.com>

Dear QRP Compadres,

I was mobile (11:30 AM MDT, July 11) (Uniden HR2510), and had chatted with several Hams in the Mid-West on 10 meters FM (29.6 MHz). They were telling me that 6 meters is open & it's not just Tropo "E". Maybe we are hearing the results of that one Flare. They were also telling me that 2 SSB is open. They were talking about a very strong signal on 50.060 MHz (CW). I did not have my 6 meter radio with me, so I don't know what the current status of that particular band is. However, 10 meters is wide open, Midwest & SE USA from the SW.

BTW, AL7IK (Joe, AK) was 599 last night (local MDT) & was working a little pile up on 10.108 MHz ~ 0445 UTC. ZL's were 569. I was listening, but not working any of them.

I get this distinct feeling that I will be the only one on 10 GHz Sept. 21st, from this geographical area (NM) which is not only the New England QRP Club's "QRP AField", but the ARRL 10 GHz Sprint too (QRPp).

72...Jay, WA5WHN, DM65qd (Albuquerque, NM)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Phil, AC6LS" <ac6ls@amsat.org>
Subject: [769] 30 is alive
Message-ID: <31E538BC.3CC1@amsat.org>

thirty is doing ok, I have worked some dx and it got me 2 more states for my WAS CW award!, only 2 more to go.....

72 de Phil

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Nick Franco <kf2ph@bnl.gov>
Subject: [760] 30 is Alive!
Message-ID: <31E51A3D.3BA8@bnl.gov>

Hi gang,

Hey, Chuck! Wait a minute....Where you going? 30 meters been berry berry good to me :) Yesterday and today 30's been up and doing well. On the way into work yesterday I chatted with Bruce-W3KYW in Pa. and

then with Wayne-WB4FFW in Nashville, Tn. On the way home I worked Serge-VC2AWR. Then while bringing my son home from Karate I worked Wil-DL8MX. This morning on the way to work I heard Bob-W03B calling CQ and had a nice chat with him in Maryland. So things are looking up, at least for the time being. Please don't think I'm blowing my own horn here. No special operating skills at this end. Just reporting the propagation, after all, isn't this a Propagation Study (TMPS)?

I've been working TMPS almost exclusively from the car with my SW-30 rig running about 800 mW (cause I blowded up my original 2N3553 final and replaced it with a R/S 2N3053 at lower rating). I'm using a 30 meter Hamstick with a 470pF cap from center feed point to ground and adjusted the length of the whip with a Network Analyzer. I sometimes have to hit the paddles a little hard to get the RF to go a little further, but all in all, I'm doing OK so far :-)

KF2PH TMPS 1996 Qs=047 States=16 Confirmed=12 DX=09
NY,IA,WI,IN,TN,IL,OH,MO,SC,MD,CA,VA,NH,FL,GA,PA
W,DL,UR,OZ,LZ,SP,CY0,VE,VC

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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "David Kreinberg" <kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com>
Subject: [773] 30m "PHENOMENON"
Message-ID: <9606118371.AA837115820@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Folks:

Did anybody hear "the whistler" on 10.118 about
0210z 7/11??

Some fat head was whistling into his mic on and
on and on for at least 10 minutes.

Maybe John Travolta is still looking for Diana Ross ;-)

73 de Dave AC5GY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [797] 30m contact report
Message-ID: <960711231837_154179627@emout19.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang,

Got exiled to the shack by the xyl tonight while she pored over her stuff to be packed for Hawaii. Ok, sure. Throw me in the briar patch.

Hm, let's see if that 30m band is open. Radiokit QRP30 still kicking out the rf; that outmoded little relay still clicks away. Hate that semi-QSK stuff--impossible to get used to after real QSK. But that little rig does do a job. That Littlefield feller sure started a revolution with that little transceiver.

Anyway I heard a feller send QRL? Sent him a GA (go ahead) and off we went. He recognized my call before I could figure out which antenna tuner was online. Turned out to be Mark Adams, from this here group. Worked for three overs, and then some junk killed off his sigs as they were fading anyway. Sorry, Mark, I didn't pull the plug on you, I just lost you in the crud. Mark was using a SWL NN1G (ie a 40-30 I presume). I told him Dave Benson would be proud. It was a very nice QSO, and it did keep me out of my XYL's hair. On the other hand, she surely packed too much without me there to supervise.

I will be getting my daily dose of QRP-L from Maui via my little HP Omnibook--the AAA says the hotels have data ports in the rooms. Not to mention indoor plumbing. Nils would be proud of that.

72,
Preston WJ2V

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com (Charles Cashion)
Subject: [762] 73
Message-ID: <199607111519.KAA02445@spd.dsccc.com>

I wondered what was up with the last issue.
The photographs looked they were n-th generation
xerox copies of artwork produced with a CGA.
(Some of you will remember CGA)

I will miss 73.
Charles
w5isz

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Allen Jones <ajones@adsnet.com>
Subject: [759] 73 Magazine
Message-ID: <1.5.4.16.19960711094731.2e3f80d2@206.158.2.1>

According to the latest issue (I think) of the ARRL letter 73 Magazine is owned by Sherry Smyth Green and is not involved in the bankruptcy. I did notice that none of the big three Japanese manufacturers had ads in the last issue.

72/3 de Allen, K9DZE

=====
Allen Jones K9DZE ajones@adsnet.com
Michigan City, Indiana EN61nq
ARCI G-QRP NorCal QRP-L #112
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: bkassel@enet.net (Brian Kassel)
Subject: [784] 73 Magazine Demise Addendum
Message-ID: <199607112059.NAA04347@maple.enet.net>

Folks:

Thanks to all who set me straight on the true ownership of 73 Magazine. Apparently it is indeed owned by Wayne's wife, and will not be directly effected by Wayne's bankruptcy filing. I wonder though why the technical as well as content quality has been sliding steadily downhill. Also it was noted that the big three Japanese manufacturers had *no* advertisements at all in the last issue.

For some, Wayne's editorials may be worth the price of the magazine, but I'm afraid that I expect somewhat more from a technically oriented magazine. Perhaps it will be sold to a concern that can turn around the slide. I sure hate to see any Ham Radio enterprise bite the dust, however imperfect.

* Brian D. Kassel W5VBO *
* bkassel@enet.net *
* QRP-L #404, ARCI #3623, ARS #27. *
* QTH: Peoria, AZ- Now 99% Viper-free *
* *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: bkassel@enet.net (Brian Kassel)
Subject: [746] 73 Magazine SK ?
Message-ID: <199607110534.WAA14116@maple.enet.net>

Greetings,

If you haven't made up your mind about renewing your subscription to 73 Amateur Radio Today, maybe it's academic. The following story appeared in the 01 July issue of W5YI Report (page 3).

WAYNE GREEN, INC., FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY:

On June 4th, Wayne Green, Inc., owned by W2NSD - self-appointed "El Supremo" of 73 amateur Radio Today filed for bankruptcy. while a shot to many - some people were not surprised. the petition for liquidation under Chapter 7 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code was filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy court for the District of New Hampshire. the Clerk of the Court made a public announcement of the Case (No. 96-11550-JEY) on June 12th. We sent for and received all of the paperwork which are public documents.

Under the bankruptcy code, creditors are prohibited from demanding repayment ...or instituting collection or foreclosure action. A creditor's meeting has been scheduled for July 12 at the Federal Building (6th floor) in Manchester, NH. Additional creditors have until October 10, 1996, to file a claim.

* Brian D. Kassel W5VBO *

* bkassel@enet.net *

* QRP-L #404, ARCI #3623, ARS #27. *

*

*

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [783] all about image responses: how, where, and what to do
Message-ID: <v02130517ae0afa26b28e@[199.170.106.28]>

Tim, WA5VQK, posed the following question on QRP-L:

>I'm receiving some type of broadcast images throughout the 30m band.
>These are among the 'normal' things heard there (cw, rtty, etc).
>Any ideas?

I'll give a somewhat elaborate response to your image response question because some people in the group might find it interesting.

[Please send any responses to my home e-mail address, svecbrdk@well.com]

Images in general

My guess is that the images you're hearing on 30m are a result of secondary mixer products, OR harmonics from strong nearby AM-band stations. There's little that can be done about the latter: a local station on 1450kHz might have a strong 7th harmonic at 10.150MHz! To take the optimistic view, let's assume your problem is due to images that result from the receiver mixing scheme.

As you can tell from the schematic, the Sierra I.F. is 4.915MHz--a fairly low frequency chosen to provide good CW filtering with standard microprocessor crystals. The only way to completely eliminate second-order or higher image responses in a receiver is to use up-conversion to a high I.F. or use direct conversion with no VFO multiplication. Both methods are incompatible with the performance goals of the Sierra, so a different approach to image rejection is needed.

I haven't measured the actual level of 30m image responses, but from tuning around above and below the 30m band I found that there were many loud signals just a few hundred kHz away from our band segment. Their amplitude will vary greatly depending on your QTH and propagation. There may be a way to reduce the images, but first you need to know the cause, e.g, what the actual image frequency is and how the mixing scheme is producing a local oscillator product that lets it get through. Then you can use traps or other simple mods to the filtering scheme to get rid of them (in some cases). I'll get to these techniques later.

Types of image responses

There are "first-order" and higher-order image responses produced by a receiver's mixing scheme. The first-order images are due to the fundamental of the local oscillator that's actually injected at the receive mixer. In the case of the Sierra, this is the pre-mixer output or "PMO" signal. The higher-order ones are those that result from harmonics of the BFO, VFO, HFO, and/or PMO.

You can tell a second-order image response that is a result of a harmonic of the VFO by listening to the tuning rate as you sweep by the image signal. A faster-than-normal tuning rate indicates that a harmonic of the VFO is involved. Signals that appear to be unaffected by the crystal filter may actually be at the 3rd overtone of the BFO. Signals that tune backwards give you additional clues.

In addition to first- and higher-order image responses, there is a different kind for which I haven't heard a name: those that are first-order (fundamental) but result from unexpected pre-mix output products. Let's call these "pre-mix leakage" image responses.

Note that in a non-synthesized rig with a pre-mix arrangement, like the Sierra, there are typically three oscillators: BFO, VFO, and HFO or crystal oscillator. This provides many possible combinations that can lead to second-order and pre-mix leakage images! Combinations of the two are even more likely, i.e. sum and difference frequencies of *harmonics* that make it through the mixer output filters.

In addition to image responses, you can also have "birdies," signals that are caused by the oscillators themselves. In the case of the Sierra, I was successful at choosing a mixing scheme that resulted in nearly zero birdies on all 9 bands--no simple trick. The strange I.F. frequency helps (4.915MHz) because it tends to eliminate band-edge birdies.

First-order images

Your image response are unlikely to be first-order. For example, at 10.100, the PMO needs to be $10.100 + 4.915$ or 15.015MHz. The first-order image is then $15.015 + 4.915$, or 23.930MHz. But the input tuned circuits and low-pass filter do a great job of getting rid of this frequency.

Second-order images

So, how about harmonics of the PMO? Again using 10.100, the 2nd harmonic of the PMO is 30.030. The images produced by this harmonic would be at around 25 and 35MHz, again not likely to be heard.

Pre-mix leakage images

The Sierra pre-mix arrangement at 10.100 on your dial looks like this:

I.F. = 4.915
VFO = 2.985
HFO = 18.000
PMO = HFO - VFO = 15.015
RF = PMO - I.F. = 10.100
IMAGE = PMO + I.F. = 23.930 (not likely)

This is the normal case. But what happens if the *sum* output from the pre-mixer gets by the PMO filter? This is always a possibility with a low-frequency VFO:

PMO(sum) = HFO + VFO = 20.985
IMAGE = PMO(sum) - I.F. = 16.070

This image has a better chance of getting through than 23.930, but I still don't think this is your problem. (Higher-order harmonics of the PMO will be even less of an issue.)

Harmonics of the VFO getting around the pre-mixer are more likely. For example, the 6th harmonic of 2.985MHz is 17.910MHz. This makes for an image response of $17.910 - 4.915 = 12.995$ MHz. This is getting close to the desired band, so a strong signal might get through.

More likely scenarios

The images that are most likely to get through are those right near the 30m band. But to get images here, you'd have to have more than one premix output near 15.015, OR have one near what would be the low-side injection frequency, i.e.: $10.100 - 4.915 = 5.185$. How in the world could the Sierra pre-mixer produce such signals? Here are some possibilities:

PMO(1) = HFO - VFO*4 = $18.000 - 2.985*4 = 6.060$
IMAGE = $6.060 + 4.915 = 10.975$

NOW we're getting somewhere. 10.975MHz is only 875kHz away from the desired 10.100MHz signal. If the low-pass filter passes it (likely) and the input filter attenuates it by 40dB (just a guess) then a very strong signal could still get through. This might happen despite the fact that the fourth harmonic of the VFO is of low amplitude.

You could probably kill this image response in one of two ways: (1) with a high-Q series trap from the antenna input to ground; (2) with a stiffer low-pass filter at the VFO output (currently, it's an LC low-pass filter). By the way, you'd know if you were getting this image response because the

VFO tuning rate would be four times normal!

How to hunt for problem frequencies

Now that you've got an idea of some ways that images can happen, the best approach is to simulate the problem using a signal generator:

1. Connect a 1MHz to 20MHz signal generator to the antenna input
2. Set the output amplitude to 1mV or less (use an attenuator if necessary)
3. Sweep slowly over the range of 1MHz to 20MHz while listening to the audio output.
4. Note all frequencies that produce an audible response (as accurately as possible), along with some indication of the strength of the response (S units, AGC voltage, etc.). If you're getting way too many strong signals (dozens), back down the signal generator level to 100uV or less.

Now look at your list. Some of the frequencies will be harmonics of the fundamental of the signal generator (e.g., $10.100/2 = 5.050\text{MHz}$). These can be ignored for the most part because they're caused by harmonic distortion in the generator's output.

The signals that remain are the important ones. If you've measured them down to the nearest kHz, there's a good chance that you can do a small amount of math to see where they came from, based on the VFO, HFO, and I.F. and harmonics thereof.

As you can imagine, it took me a while to find a combination of I.F., VFO, and HFO frequencies that minimize images while meeting my other constraints--low current drain and simplicity. But I may be able to design-in a trap for a specific problem-causing mixer product. If you find the source of your 30m images, please let me know!

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [757] Alright Already 40M
Message-ID: <199607111409.0AA18619@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Now I'm really irritated. Here you guys are talking about all the DX and KH6's and stuff on 40M. I'm sitting up on 30M listening to a weak beacon station and aperiodically tuning the band.

OK, out comes the NE4040 or the Exp II!!! Thanks for the heads up guys. Wake up all the KL7's.

Sad about 73 magazine though. I had just yesterday sent email to someone on the list giving the magazine another year. We gotta do something to help George at HamBrew make it past the next two issues too. I haven't seen anyone comment on the notes in the latest issue.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=055 States=27 Confirmed=16 DX=02 (0.95W)
AL AZ CA CO DC DE FL GA IA IL IN MD MI MO
NC OH OK OR SD TN TX UT WA WI WV WY

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: dolsonj@ix.netcom.com (James Dolson)
Subject: [751] CQ Catholic Priest Who Bought My TenTec 405 Amp
Message-ID: <199607111152.EAA02232@dfw-ix9.ix.netcom.com>

Would the gentleman who purchased my TenTec 405 50 watt amplifier please contact me. I, er, ah, seem to have lost, I mean misplaced, well, dog gone it, I lost your address.

Jim Dolson
WB8ZBD
dolsonj@ix.netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gw1.com>
Subject: [756] digest problems
Message-ID: <199607111405.AA02740@gp-ipc97.gw1.com>

HELP,

I get the digest of this list and the last two #415 & 416 arrived with out the

digest only the index. Did someone change things? Please put them back. Im not sure I can handle not getting this list and 80 some odd individual postings a day would deffinatly take a bite out of the little I get done anyway.

Also I cant find or remember how to get back an old digest I know about the last 100 or so are saved but how do I get them back and are they going to get to me without the digest part?

Thanks

de KBØROL, Brad

PS go ahead and write to my boss about the time I spend on here. She's given up on me mowing the lawn, she might as well know Im doing something with my time other than sleeping or listing to some weard music on the little radio I built from OHR.

PPS write me direct - I don't seem to be getting the digest to well right now.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: RHILTO@acxiom.com
Subject: [764] Extension cord antenna
Message-ID: <1e5224c0@acxiom.com>

Gang(sters): Well, I never claimed to be real quick on the uptake, and this question is gonna prove it... regarding the loop antenna fashioned from a 100 foot extension cord discussed here earlier: just exactly how do you arrange the connectors? I understand that the coax braid goes to one side and the coax center conductor goes to the other... but is the far end of the cord shorted? or arranged to form a 200 foot loop? and somebody mentioned using the ground conductor somehow...?

Worrying about this is consuming all my free time and I've got better things to do (like not post to the list when I should be programming cause that's what they're paying me for and I don't want to be reported and oh my! please answer.)

7.3, ki5ez
Bob

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996

From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [795] Hambrew Help (Pep talk).
Message-ID: <960711213213_154099398@emout10.mail.aol.com>

Readers of Hambrew and fellow QRP-Lers,

I did not notice the note from the publisher of "Hambrew" until Chuck, K5FO mentioned it today. I can see what is happening and wish that it were not so. If you are able to help out, please do. I have no financial interest, I do however, receive the magazine.

I still miss "Ham Radio". That was one of the best mags out. I'm not planning on tossing out those issues I still have. I only wished I would have subscribed to it sooner than I did.

A lot of subscriptions are going up in price. A fact of life. It seems that it comes in waves. Two repeater/VHF groups I support have increased the dues and the one does not do a newsletter! I extended my subscriptions to 3 QRP pubs and one month later the rates went up on 2 of them.

So, let's all start writing to our favorite newsletters, and share those ideas, designs, antennas, etc. I see the same guys writing for several different mags. If you can post something to QRP-L, you can write for your favorite mag too. (I confess, I could write more than I have.)

The QRP Quarterly is looking for more technical articles. (See the July issue). I know "72" and our Central Penn QRP pub want more too.

Let's help these folks out and in the process, we'll all benefit. Enough of the pep talk, that job belongs to Chuck. :)

72 de cameron, kt3a QRP-L 7

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu (Steve Hideg)
Subject: [745] IC-735 QRP Adjustment
Message-ID: <v02130509ae09ef6089ce@[129.74.35.16]>

I've noticed a few requests on the list lately for information on modifying the ICOM IC-735 to operate at QRP levels. The modification is extremely simple once you locate the correct potentiometer to tweak.

You can find the instructions by following the QRP Info link, then the Hints & Kinks link.

<<http://qrp.cc.nd.edu/QRP-L/>>

<<http://grp.cc.nd.edu/grp-1/hints/ic735/index.html>>

--Steve

Office of Information Technologies Telephone: (219) 631-3926
University of Notre Dame URL: <http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@mail.telis.org>
Subject: [778] Jerry Parker & the NorCal Web Page
Message-ID: <199607111937.MAA00643@mail-01.telis.org>

Fellows, if you have not read the July NorCal meeting report on the NorCal Web Page done by Jerry Parker, WA00WR, you should. Jerry has done a

wonderful job of illustrating my report with pictures that he took. The interesting thing is that it appears that he was following me around and I was telling him what I was going to write about. NOT TRUE. Jerry just shot film, and was able to pick out great shots that did a wonderful job of illustrating what I wrote. But HE deserves the credit, because he did all the work. Great Job Jerry, and this is a neat piece of QRP journalism. 72, Doug, KI6DS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>
Subject: [747] JULY NORCAL MEETING REPORT AND PICTURES
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960711054928.006dd5e0@fix.net>

The report by Doug Hendricks on the July NorCal Meeting COMPLETE with pictures is now available off the NorCal Page.

<http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>

72,,,Jerry...WA6OWR...K

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Peter Beedlow <nn9k@owrldnet.att.net>
Subject: [777] MFJ-90's News
Message-ID: <199607111935.TAA23427@mailhost.worldnet.att.net>

MFJ 90's folks--here is the response I received from Dave after my post here the other day. He asked me to pass on the information below, so I am.

Thanks,

Pete, NN9K

>From: DavidL@bangate.compaq.com
>To: <nn9k@worldnet.att.net>
>Subject: MFJ-90's News
>Date: Wed, 10 Jul 96 20:49:52 +0000
>
>Peter,

>
>Sorry for the poor response. I did not think it would take me so
>long to get the next newsletter out.
>
>Yes, I screwed up on the dues. I evidently picked up a down-level
>data base file when I was changing computers and packing for the
>move to Houston. Several members had the same problem with
>me and again I apologize. I have updated my current data base
>with your input and will try and hang on to just one copy this time.
>
>You have not missed any newsletters. I am just putting a July issue
>together now. We are officially moved into our new home in
>Houston. I have my computer back on-line. And I am again
>scanning the internet for QRP, CW and 90's related stuff.
>
>I can not figure out how to post a message to the QRP-List so,
>if you would, please pass my comments on to the gang.
>
>Sorry for any inconvenience caused..
>David L
>W5RIF formally AB5JE
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Mark S. Adams" <msadams@acsu.buffalo.edu>
Subject: [752] MFJ-9420 SSB RIG - SOLD
Message-ID: <31E557B8.1D0F@acsu.buffalo.edu>

Thanks for the interest guys.

--

72's de Mark, N2VPK, Member of the Buffalo QRP Connection

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [798] Motel/portable Antenna - (long)
Message-ID: <199607120358.XAA27434@mh004.infi.net>

Hi Gang. I've got an excellent motel/portable antenna for you to try. I saw it some time ago in a book "Practical Wire Antennas" by John D. Heys, G3BDQ. Heys refers to it as the "W3EDP" antenna. I've tested it under varying conditions, and while it will never replace a dipole at 50', it is a good, practical antenna that will go anywhere with you.

It's just two pieces of wire - one 17' long, one 85' long. The longest wire is the antenna, and the short one is a counterpoise. You must use a tuner and connect the antenna to the "wire" terminal, the counterpoise to "ground".

In use, string the antenna up anyway you can, the higher, the better, of course. Stretch the counterpoise out on the floor, or out of a window, or on the ground.

I've made two of these antennas, the first one from #14 stranded insulated house wire. This one I store on a wooden reel about 8-1/2" diameter, 1-3/4" thick. I used it in one of the QSO parties with good results. I just threw a line over a tree and hoisted the far end up about 60' in the air, and let the counterpoise lay on the ground. (so, the antenna was bottom fed)

This first reel was big and heavy, so I made another antenna from #22 insulated wire. This one went on a 4-1/2" X 1" reel.

I had one of these antennas with me when I visited my sister-in-law in an Apt. in Fort Wayne, In. Her only back yard was a patio about 20' X 16' with a 5' fence around it. I ran the antenna up over the top of her porch swing, around the top of the fence and back to my Sierra on the swing. In a few minutes, I worked Austin, Texas on 30M with less than two watts. The antenna was 9' at it's highest point - most of it 5' high.

This week I was on vacation at Holden Beach, NC. (until Bertha interrupted) I set up three antennas. First was a 20M quarter wave vertical. Second was a half size G5RV. Third was the W3EDP. This time the W3EDP was strung from the upper floor about 28' up to a pier about 4' off the ground. (the antenna was top fed) The counterpoise hung out the window. Similarly, the 1/2G5RV was sloped from 28' to about 12'

I made 4 20M contacts and 18 30M contacts, 14 of them DX, ranging from Ireland, Sweden, Germany, Yugoslavia to Argentina, Costa Rico, El Salvador, Mexico. I could not tell an appreciable difference between the W3EDP and the 1/2G5RV. On 20 meters, I suspected that the vertical *might* have had a slight edge, but certainly not a significant one. I listened to 40M on several occasions, but made no contacts. (didn't hear any DX) Again, I could sense no difference between the W3EDP and the 1/2G5RV.

The W3EDP antenna is useable on all bands, 80M to 10M. On some bands, (80, 10) it will work better without the counterpoise. The antenna works like a 1/2 wave wire on 80M, using the counterpoise as a widely spaced feeder. Similarly, on the other bands various fractions of a wave come into play, with the counterpoise/feed helping to lower the impedance to a tunable level.

Frankly, I don't understand the physics involved, but my experience tells me that this is a great antenna for portable work. It's small, light, easy to handle and store, and it works!

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC
Probably, but not necessarily. - Benny Hill

AE4IC TMPS 1996 QS=41 States=9 Confirmed=3 DX=29

NY,TN,TX,KS,PA,MD,OH,NH,MI

G,OK,GM,UT,SH,DL,U,3B,YO,F,VA,LZ,EI,SP,YT,9A,XE,LU,YS,HA,ON,UA,SM,TI

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>
Subject: [781] NORCAL Sierra For Sale
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.93.960711155919.11972A-100000@govonca2.gov.on.ca>

OK. I had fun building it, it works fine. Now I am going to sell it and do it all over again this winter with the Wilderness Radio version.

FOR SALE:

NorCal Sierra, built. I am a clean builder, no blobs and no solder resin on the boards.

Available with band modules for 80, 40 and 30 metres, all three or one or two or none. Price reflected in number of band modules; I will use what is left on my WR version.

This is stock. No mods, no panel labels. You can have the fun of that; I know where the tuning knob is without a label, hi.

I have asked for advice off line, and was advised that the market will set the cost so...

I am taking offers. If this is worth selling, fine. If not worth it, fine. Obviously I am looking to sell the worth of the rig as well as a bit of my time having done it, but if no one wants it and wants the WR version and wants to build it instead, fine. I assume I will sell to highest bid, but given the vagaries of e-mail delivery times and varying abilities of the QRP-L subscribers to read the mail

and digests in their many ways please allow me the discretion and trust me to allow those who

are seriously interested (if any!) to counter-offer based on some degree of interest expressed and when. I still own it and reserve the right to sell or not. Reply to me by e-mail direct. All responses will be replied to and advised as to situation and position of sale.

Thanks,

Brien
Toronto

pepperb@gov.on.ca

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: wq8q@juno.com
Subject: [762] NW 80/20 Construction Update
Message-ID: <19960711.112052.9959.0.wq8q@juno.com>

Dan's Small Parts and Kits NW 80/20 30meter Transceiver

Started off right away verifying the parts and putting each part into it's own little coin envelope . . . being red/green colorblind I have trouble with resistor color codes so I measure each one with a digital VOM and store it in the coin envelope and mark the value and the part number . . . thought I was missing a 22 ohm resistor but then noticed Lorna the Wonder Cat (yes, the same one who destroyed my Bencher Paddle a couple of weeks back) flipping something around in the hallway, and managed to retrieve and straighten out the leads of the errant 22 ohm resistor.

Dan's did a great job! This looks like it's going to be a fun \$59.00 project. The PC board is good quality with excellent silk screening, easy to read, the instructions are clear and illustrations are more than adequate. Started off by winding the toroids . . . never tried it before and it turned out easier than expected . . . enough wire was included so when I screwed up and didn't cut enough wire for the 48 turns on a T-37, there's plenty left to try again. I liked the author's suggestion of using furniture stripper to remove the varnish from the wire . . . worked like a charm. Built the VFO section and have yet to smoke test it. I like the way each section is tested before continuing on to the next . . . something Heathkit never did . . . and I've built my share of those over the years.

The kit comes with everything except cabinet, knobs, outboard connectors, and hookup wire . . . everything else, including pots, air-variable cap, and switches are included . . . with any luck I'll have it up and running by this weekend.

More as it progresses . . .

73 de Rick, WQ8Q

Cincinnati
QRP-L #583

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: John Mckee <jmckee@rfmd.com>
Subject: [753] qrp-l digest
Message-ID: <199607111243.IAA77183@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello gang,

Is the QRP-L daily digest coming in a different form now or is my internet provider hosed up? I get a summary and then all the postings are hung on as attachments.

73

John WB4OFT
jmckee@rfmd.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [765] QRP-L digest problems
Message-ID: <96Jul11.115350-0400edt.65558-14099+138@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Peter & Co.,

The list server software was upgraded to version 8.0 which only supports MIME digests. Of the two options (full blown MIME, or RFC-1153 format) I choose the RFC-1153 format as it closely resembles the old non-MIME format and would be easier on the eyes for people without MIME-compliant readers. It seems some MIME-compliant mail readers can't deal with the RFC-1153 format. SO, to make a long story shorter, I hopefully have managed to change the format back to the way it had been before the upgrade. Very sorry for the inconvenience. Please let me know if you have any trouble with the digest you receive tomorrow morning.

As for the two digests you missed, you should be able to get the archived copies by sending the following commands, in the body of an e-mail, to listserv@Lehigh.EDU:

GET QRP-L/DIGESTS 415
GET QRP-L/DIGESTS 416

Or via anon FTP from ftp.lehigh.edu in /pub/listserv/qrp-1/Digests.

73

Jim N3VXI

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [758] Radio Days in Auburn Hills, MI
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960711102223.30748B-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

Hi Folks!

If anyone has the opportunity to listen to a rig next Wednesday morning, between 9am and noon, please be on the lookout for this:

Radio Days!

The city of Auburn Hills is pleased to announce that on Wednesday July 17th our children's day camp program will be "Radio Days!"

Local Amateur Radio Operators will be here to demonstrate their hobby. Our day campers will have the opportunity to talk to other people all over the world!

The day camp is located at the City of Auburn Hills Municipal Complex at 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, Michigan. The program will run from 9am until Noon, and the radio operators will be located in the picnic areas near the Seniors/Recreation building.

Everyone is invited to come and learn about this exciting, high-tech hobby.

* * * * *

We'll be on 40, 30, and maybe 20 meters. Look for WB8ZJL on MIDCARS 7.258 +/- QRM. WB8E and AA8LZ on 7.040. AA8OZ on 10.116 and 14.060. I probably will not be running QRP as I need to actually talk to people to make the demonstration interesting for the kids.

Anyone else in the area who wants to come out and help is more than welcome.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: [790] Re[2]: 73 Magazine SK ?
Message-ID: <9606118371.AA837130517@mail.creo.bc.ca>

Rich K7YHA writes:

> (snip snip snip...)
> Incase you live in a cave, QRPers are about the only facet of the
> hobby that is having FUN with radio. We need to spread the message.

Fortunately, there are other ham magazines than CQ/QST, and other ham organisations than the ARRL. The RSGB's journal Radio Communication has a regular QRP column. If I'm not mistaken, so do Ham Radio Today and Practical Wireless.

Most other countries have much lower amateur power limits, so it's not that far from QRO to QRP...

Laura Halliday VE7LDH	"C'est une femme mutine, assez
lhalliday@creo.bc.ca	elegante, grave et legere, ayant le
ve7ldh@amsat.org	sens du confort et du plaisir
Locator: CN89mg	en tout." - C. Deneuve

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Subject: [772] SC on 30mtrs for TMPS
Message-ID: <960711140233_574559725@emout07.mail.aol.com>

Hey gang,

Couldn't help but notice the lack of "SC's"
in the tally's at the end of some emails...
(Chuck!) ;)

I will be glad to be available to provide this
apparently rare state for the "study".

I hope to play in the summer Sprint on Sunday.
I could hang out on 30mtrs afterwards (0015Z, July 15)
for anyone that desires. QSL's are no extra charge!!

Let me know!

73 Randy WJ4P

PS If I have shown flagrant disregard for my QSLing responsibilities and I already owe you a card, pse let me know that too.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Peter Simpson/US/3Com <Peter_Simpson@3mail.3Com.COM>
Subject: [750] Shear madness :-)
Message-ID: <9607111114.AA7507@hqsmtp2.ops.3com.com>

Dave:

You're welcome. I understand that there may even be a less expensive alternative. I have used the Kepro unit, and I know it's a quality tool that will last a long time. It's beginning to look like I'll soon be able to claim the title of "chief inspector of nifty tools to make quick straight cuts without generating nasty dust or rough edges". Here's another unit I'm investigating...

>>>

MSC Industrial Supply (and probably any of the other industrial supply outfits) sells a 12" capacity bench shear for \$335. It's American made and can handle aluminum up to 0.050" thick and steel up to 0.020" thick, so it shouldn't have any trouble cutting PCB material. At almost \$200 less than the Kepro shear, it may be easier to get that one by the treasurer ;-). If you want more info (like their phone number and the order number for the shear), let me know.

73,
Al N3KF
>>>

MSC is at (800) 645-7270

MSC Industrial Supply Co
151 Sunnyside Blvd
Plainview NY 11803

The unit Al refers to is their order number 09538307, 12" Bench Shear, \$335. It's on Pg 2209 of their 95-96 catalog.

Al says he's bought stuff from them before and they take credit cards and are good about returns. Thanks to Al for sending me MSC's info and for offering to mail me a copy of the catalog page in question.

I also found a shear in the McMaster-Carr (1990) Catalog,
another "soup-to-nuts" industrial supply place.

They want \$388 for a "light duty bench shear", with "heat treated alloy steel blades". 12" capacity, replaceable blades and weighs 18 lbs. Says it handles up to 0.062" soft metals. It's on p 1525 of their Catalog 90, order number 3657A11 and you can order replacement blades for it.

McMaster Carr Supply Co
POB 440
New Brunswick, NJ 08903

(201) 329-3200

For reference, the Kepro unit weighs 24 lbs, appears slightly more bulky than the McMaster-Carr unit, and claims "hardened tool steel" shearing components and a cast aluminum base. It's spec'd to handle up to 0.040" sheet metal and 0.093" PCB material.

I continue in my search for the ultimate bench-top shear for the committed homebrewer (spurred on by the incredible support of QRP-L'ers...you guys are the greatest!).

Regards,
Peter

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Ahrens Tim" <tahrens@devmail.sps.mot.com>
Subject: [755] Sierra Images on 30m ???
Message-ID: <9606118371.AA837100908@devmail.sps.mot.com>

Just finished my Wilderness Sierra - really nice package, and super documentation. Everything works great... but it seems that I am also receiving some type of broadcast images throughout the 30m band. These are among the 'normal' things heard there (cw, rtty, etc).

The pre-mix is correct as seen on a spectrum analyzer, and I get about 3 watts at the appropriate frequency. The antenna is a 1/4 wave vertical on 40 meters. With a MFJ tuner to make the finals happy, the images are still there.

Any ideas?

Thanks,

Tim WA5VQK

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)
Subject: [788] Solar storm update
Message-ID: <v02130500ae0b3379b082@[192.91.202.41]>

Well, the solar disturbance hasn't made it to us yet...current guess is around 1200 utc July 12. conditions will be quiet until then. Solar flux is slowly dropping back to lower levels. Tonite should still be good for dx, and hopefully things will return to normal for the Sunday homebrew sprint.

excerpts from the air force forcast follow....

IB. SOLAR ACTIVITY FORECAST: SOLAR ACTIVITY IS FORECAST TO BE PREDOMINANTLY LOW. REGION 7978 RETAINS THE CAPABILITY OF PRODUCING AN ISOLATED M-CLASS FLARE BUT THIS IS BECOMING LESS LIKELY AS DECAY CONTINUES.

IIA. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM 10/2100Z TO 11/2100Z: THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD WAS QUIET. THE DISTURBANCE FROM THE X2 FLARE AND SUSPECTED CME ON 09 JUL DID NOT ARRIVE AT THE TIME EXPECTED. HOWEVER, FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE CME INDICATES THAT IT WAS QUITE BROAD IN LONGITUDINAL EXTENT AND TRAVELLING AT A VELOCITY OF APPROXIMATELY 400 KM/S.

IIB. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY FORECAST: THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD IS FORECAST TO BECOME UNSETTLED TO ACTIVE ON 12 JUL. A 400 KM/S VELOCITY OF THE CME EQUATES TO AN ARRIVAL TIME OF NEAR 1200Z ON 12 JUL. PERIODS OF MINOR STORMING LATE ON 12 JUL AND EARLY ON 13 JUL ARE LIKELY WITH ISOLATED MAJOR STORMING POSSIBLE. THIS DISTURBANCE SHOULD SUBSIDE ON 14 JUL AND UNSETTLED TO SLIGHTLY ACTIVE CONDITIONS ARE FORECAST FOR THAT DAY.

IV. PENTICTON 10.7 CM FLUX

OBSERVED	11 JUL	077
PREDICTED	12 JUL-14 JUL	076/074/070
90 DAY MEAN	11 JUL	070

V. GEOMAGNETIC A INDICES

OBSERVED	AFR/AP	10 JUL	004/004
ESTIMATED	AFR/AP	11 JUL	005/005
PREDICTED	AFR/AP	12 JUL-14 JUL	020/020-015/015-010/010

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867 x40
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
AB70A Tmps 1996 Qs=014 States=11 Confirmed=01 DX=01
AK AZ CA CO HI ID KS OK OR TX WA
VE

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Dennis Marandos <k1lgq@dennis.mv.com>
Subject: [796] Summer Ice Cream Social For All New England
Message-ID: <199607120211.WAA11565@bort.mv.net>

If you can get there...you're invited. Pass the word to anyone who has a
car to drive to Westford, MA! You're all invited.... (You buy your own.)

ICE CREAM AT KIMBALL'S FARM IN Westford, MA. at 7 PM July 24 (Wednesday).

Okay all you New England QRPers, this is your chance to get together
and meet the clan. Have an Eye-ball QSO where you can shoot the breeze, and
enjoy a genuine Gab-session, kibitz QRP and more.

There is no called agenda but to meet and have fun. It will be up
to you what you want to buy, and Kimball's has over two hundred parking
spaces so the ice cream must be good. Let's meet in front, somewhere, and
gather for a bit of summer camaraderie.

Mark your calendar now and bring the little tikes, pack momma in the
car and bring your in-laws for a quick trip to Kimball's. You'll be amongst
the New England QRP hard-hitters and ice cream lovers you have always wanted
to speak with and now here's your chance.

See you there. Use the following directions to meet the wizards of
New England.

Directions to Kimball Farm

Kimball Farm
400 Littleton Rd.
Westford, MA
508.486.3891

Take I-495 to Exit 31
(Great Rd., State Route 119, Littleton Common)

* This exit is well marked as the way to Nashoba Valley Ski Area

Take Exit 31 onto Rte 119 eastbound

If coming from the north: left at the top of the exit ramp

If coming from the south: right at the top of the exit ramp

Continue easterly on Rte 119 to Rte 110 northbound

A short distance to a set of traffic lights, stay in left turn lane)

Turn left onto Rte 110 northbound

Follow Rte 110 north for .8 miles to Kimball Farm on the right

There is parking in lots on both sides of the street

72/73

Dennis Marandos - K1LGQ

New England QRP Club

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996

From: "Bob White" <Bob_White@CCMAIL.sms.lmco.com>

Subject: [789] TMPS Reporting Via Web Page

Message-ID: <9606118371.AA837136547@CCMAIL.sms.lmco.com>

I had a nice chat with Nick, KF2PH on 30 meters this morning. I was running 400mW and Nick was running 800mW. No big deal right? How about the fact that Nick was on Long Island running mobile!

I thought it was a big deal, but Nick was not all that impressed. He had worked both VC2AW and DL8MX the evening before while running mobile at the same power level. Now that is impressive!

Just goes to show you what you can do with a SW30 and a hamstick.

Way to go Nick.

For Dit Dit:

I might not have been reporting, but I have not been inactive.

Check out [HTTP://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/5582](http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/5582) for my current W03B 1996 400mW TMPS report.

72 to all,

Bob White W03B WASTP=41.88W

TMPS (I'll let ya check the homepage)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [794] Tuna Tin 2
Message-ID: <960711213041_154097878@emout19.mail.aol.com>

Doug,

Thanks for the wonderful inclusion of the Tuna Tin 2 in the June "QRPP". I too, read and re-read the article, though I did not get to build it. By the time I got the article, Radio Shack had discontinued the parts I needed. I may be tempted to play with one since you put the article in.....that is if I don't do a forty something first.

BTW, I have that original "QST". It is in my collection of mags that had QRP related articles. This one was a gift from a fellow homebrewer when I got my ticket in '79.

PS Still doing the SLT.....steady and slow.

72 de cameron, kt3a

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Phil Sikes" <psikes@whidbey.net>
Subject: [748] Walking Paddle Tip
Message-ID: <199607110657.XAA06300@islander.whidbey.net>

Hi there guys and gals. I have discovered a cheap and fairly neat way to keep your paddles/bugs from walking around the table top. Take

just a small spot of Coax Seal and place it on at least one foot of the key. I have used this on bugs, Vibroplex paddles, Brown Bros. paddles and Nye Viking paddles. Seems to work on all of them. The Coax Seal will also come right off when no longer needed.

I am not responsible for anything but my self!

72 - Phil
Amateur Radio Station
KJ7NS
ARCI 9196:NWQRP 412:QRP-L 528
email: psikes@whidbey.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Dan Keen <70731.722@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [768] Walking Paddle Tip
Message-ID: <960711163028_70731.722_EHM83-1@CompuServe.COM>

>Hi there guys and gals. I have discovered a cheap and fairly neat way
>to keep your paddles/bugs from walking around the table top. Take
>just a small spot of Coax Seal and place it on at least one foot of
>the key. I have used this on bugs, Vibroplex paddles, Brown Bros.
>paddles and Nye Viking paddles. Seems to work on all of them. The
>Coax Seal will also come right off when no longer needed.

> > I just use a big mouse pad. Paddle will not slip or move in any way and
> > makes a nice soft surface for my hand :-) 73

Same here except also have adhesive-backed "loop" strips afixed to the desktop, and the mousepad just layed over the strips. Nothing attached to the keypaddles. By "loop" strip I mean, one of the two strips from a "hook and loop" velcro kit available at any drug/discount store. The "hook" strips not needed.

Similar thing for computer game joysticks, only there the forces are higher. And so the "hook" strips are also needed (attached to the bottom of the joystick) and the "loop" strip of course goes on the desktop. When done playing flight simulators, I pull up on the joystick to free it and cover the strips on the desktop with a mousepad.

Dan KN6TM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: moyle@essc.psu.edu (Alfred M. Moyle)
Subject: [775] WAS and 30M
Message-ID: <9607111837.AA29986@seismic.geosc.psu.edu>

>>Are QSOs made on 30M eligible for WAS? I was under the assumption that
>>contests (and awards) were not allowed on 30M.
>>
>>In fact, I actually quit operating on 30M a few days following its
>>"opening" because I read that the ARRL was not going to permit QSL cards from
>>30M to count towards anything.
>>
>>73 =paul= wb8zjl

Hi Paul ...

Yes you are allowed to use 30 M contacts toward WAS. I wondered about it too, so I checked the rules ... contacts on any ham band are valid. After all, it isn't really a contest ... more like a propagation study ;-).

73,
Al N3KFL

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@mail.telis.org>
Subject: [779] Why NorCal Does Kits
Message-ID: <199607111937.MAA00631@mail-01.telis.org>

If you have ever wondered why Jim and I do NorCal kits, read the posting from Ron Doyle, "Another 49er Lives" posted on July 11th, Thursday on QRP-L. Ron you have made all of the work that we do worth it. Thank you for sharing your experiences and making my day!! Your son is the type of ham that I want to reach with the 49er. That is why the manual is written in the style that it is, to hopefully help the newcomer.

I am at Lloyd Bennett's W7SA0 and having a ball. Tonight, Rich High and Myron China and several of the Colorado QRP Club are getting together with us for a dinner and QRP gab session. The dinner is at 6:30, and if you are in Denver and would like to come, give Rich a call at 366-3114 for directions.

I will be here a couple of days and then head to Kansas on Saturday to see my dad. 72, Doug

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Doyle, Ron" <doyler@uh2297p01.daytonoh.ncr.com>
Subject: [754] Yes, yet another 40-9er lives.
Message-ID: <31E4FBCA@sdcwinnb.daytonoh.ncr.com>

I am using my fatherly bragging rights so if you have read enough of these stories please hit the delete key now. Also I had entered the 40-9er I built in the Great Dayton Build Contest and won a prize so that gives me some (very little) bragging rights too, so says Chuck, K5F0. That's it for the legal stuff.

My son, Robert, who has just turned 10 years old, has expressed some interest in ham radio. This prompted me to pick up a kit at the Hamvention last May. We started on the kit the usual way by taking inventory. As each part was located we put it on a sheet of notebook paper with tape and labeled it. Not the best but it worked. We had some minor hassles getting the parts out of the tape without sever mangling but we knew where each part was and they were easy to find so it worked out ok.

I had already introduced Robert to a soldering iron and which end to hold onto so we were ready to start stuffing parts. This is where I let Robert do most of the work. I read the instructions and he found parts, stuffed them, and soldered them in. I instructed on the proper orientation and gave some soldering tips as we progressed. We took our time and spend about 1 hour at each sitting. It was slow work but he had a very nice finished product when he put the last part in. The time spent was also quality father/son time so it was worth it.

We let the board dry good after cleaning and prepared to put enough connectors on to test. Last Sunday was the big day. All was ready, battery, headphones, antenna. No key yet. Robert listened while I plugged the battery in. He was not impressed. He hear some faint code but there just wasn't much to be heard. I listened and agreed. I hooked my 40-9er in and there was lots to hear. Big let down. Robert's radio was broke.

Last night I took voltage readings from my radio that worked. Verified all parts were in the correct place and oriented correctly. All voltages looked good. I could spot the oscillator with my QRP+ and could even hear it transmit when I shorted out the key contacts. While all my checks said everything was working perfectly very little could be heard and no transmit power could be detected by my power meter. The driver transistor would get pretty hot after a very short time transmitting also.

I could touch the input of the ne602 and hear plenty of white noise with

plenty of volume so I decided the radio was working as all my checks indicated. The problem had to be off-board. I looked at the antenna connector and wiring since that was common to both receive and transmit. As I handled it there was great popping noises and static generated. I thought that kind of odd so I took it out and used clip leads to hook the antenna up. Wow!!! What a difference! Lots of signals and even the religious station was coming in loud. Robert was now very very pleased. The phono jack I was using as an antenna connector quickly went into the trash. I did check it out a little and it was intermittently shorted until I plugged the antenna in and then it was fully shorted all the time.

It never fails. The simplest problems are the hardest to find.

Now to install it in the case we got from R/S. We opted for the small tan case that had a battery compartment. We should be able to finish it up this weekend.

I used to build kits as I was growing up and I never had one that worked right when I was finished. I would have to play around and substitute parts with different values and they never seemed to work as promised. The 40-9er kit is very impressive. I put one together and it worked as promised first time. And now, my son's first kit went together easy and after a little troubleshooting and replacement of external parts (not the fault of the kit) it works as promised.

This is the type of stuff that will hook those that have even the slightest interest in building. To Doug Hindricks, Jim Cates, Wayne Burdick, and all who have had a hand in making the 40-9er possible, Thanks!!!!

72 de

Ron Doyle, N8VAR qrp-1# 263
NCR - Dayton
Work (513) 445-3179
Home (513) 237-0790
<Ronald.Doyle@DaytonOH.NCR.COM>

Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty

N8VAR TMPS 1996 Qs=002 States=02 Confirmed=01 DX=00
AR NJ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [774] Re: 30 is alive

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960711141923.3331C-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Thu, 11 Jul 1996, Phil, AC6LS wrote:

> thirty is doing ok, I have worked some dx and it got me 2 more states
> for my WAS CW award!, only 2 more to go.....

Are QSOs made on 30M eligible for WAS? I was under the assumption that contests (and awards) were not allowed on 30M.

In fact, I actually quit operating on 30M a few days following its "opening" because I read that the ARRL was not going to permit QSL cards from 30M to count towards anything.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [766] Re: 30 is Alive!
Message-ID: <199607111621.QAA20067@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Nick,

Thanks for the help. You're right. I was about to slip from the higher band and I publiclly apologize for my lapse in faith in the ionosphere. It's just that compulsion to get the last state needed on 40M at 0.95W. :-)

And for your support I am putting into the USPS one 2SC799 to help you get more juice outta your SW-30.

Don't you go and beat those paddles too much.

I note in the old log book that we worked last year but not this one. I'll be looking for you. I do need NY again. :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=055 States=27 Confirmed=16 DX=02 (0.95W)
AL AZ CA CO DC DE FL GA IA IL IN MD MI MO
NC OH OK OR SD TN TX UT WA WI WV WY

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Sapko, Eileen <esapko@arrl.org>
Subject: RE: 30 M question

Dear Paul,

Contacts on 10 MHz are acceptable for the following awards: WAS (basic, CW, RTTY, packet and QRP; but no single-band or 5-Band WAS); DXCC (CW and digital QSOs for mixed, CW and RTTY awards, but no 5-Band DXCC). Best 73,

Eileen Sapko
ARRL Awards Manager

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [776] RE: 30 M question (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960711153328.4201A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

Daddy always said to go right to the horse's mouth...

----- Forwarded message -----

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: sholla@panasonic.atlanta.com (Holland, Steve)
Subject: [749] RE: 73 Magazine SK ?
Message-ID: <1996Jul11.064700.1619.34207@ntserver.panasonic.atlanta.com>

Hello everyone:

I wanted to add one thing. 73 magazine is owned by Wayne's wife. His businesses were affected, hers was not. I do not like Wayne Green but his magazine comes out with some good articles. This posting in W5YI was also in other sources and the complete post describes the business affected. 73 de N9HXX/4

Steve N9HXX/4
sholla@panasonic.atlanta.com

From: bkassel[SMTP:bkassel@enet.net]
Sent: July 11 1996 01:40
Subject: 73 Magazine SK ?

Greetings,

If you haven't made up your mind about renewing your subscription to 73 Amateur Radio Today, maybe it's academic. The following story appeared in the 01 July issue of W5YI Report (page 3).

WAYNE GREEN, INC., FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY:

On June 4th, Wayne Green, Inc., owned by W2NSD - self-appointed "El Supremo" of 73 amateur Radio Today filed for bankruptcy. while a shot to many - some people were not surprised. the petition for liquidation under Chapter 7 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code was filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy court for the District of New Hampshire. the Clerk of the Court made a public announcement of the Case (No. 96-11550-JEY) on June 12th. We sent for and received all of the paperwork which are public documents.

Under the bankruptcy code, creditors are prohibited from demanding repayment ...or instituting collection or foreclosure action. A creditor's meeting has been scheduled for July 12 at the Federal Building (6th floor) in Manchester, NH. Additional creditors have until October 10, 1996, to file a claim.

```
*****
*      Brian D. Kassel W5VB0      *
*      bkassel@enet.net          *
*      QRP-L #404, ARCI #3623, ARS #27.      *
*                                     *
*****
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: k7yha@juno.com (richard h. arland)
Subject: [785] Re: 73 Magazine SK ?
Message-ID: <19960711.214212.4511.4.k7yha@juno.com>

On Wed, 10 Jul 1996 22:34:54 -0700 bkassel@enet.net (Brian Kassel)
writes:

>Greetings,
>
>If you haven't made up your mind about renewing your subscription
>to 73 Amateur Radio Today, maybe it's academic. The following
>story appeared in the 01 July issue of W5YI Report (page 3).
>
>
>WAYNE GREEN, INC., FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY:
>

Yep...old "EL SUPREMO" really has a grip on how to be financially
independent! Guess that's what happens when you rely on alternative medicine and
promote quack books on cold fusion and HAARP!

The handwriting has been on the wall for several years regarding 73
magazine. Unfortunately it is a very sad story. Probably the worst
spin-off of 73's demise is the loss of a QRP column in a national
magazine. This leaves us with only Rich Fisher, KI6SN, and the
Worldradio QRP column. Might I encourage all of you to subscribe to WR
to insure it's good health and the continuation of the ONE and ONLY QRP
column in a national ham radio publication.

Incuse anyone is interested....I have been working on Alan Dorhoffer at
CQ since 1987 to resurrect Ade Weiss' old QRP column with absolutely no
headway. CQ's official party line: "We can't be all things to all
readers". Too bad. Although CQ does feature an occasional QRP column by
Dave Ingram, these are mainly product review type columns with little
substance. CQ is exclusively a QRO DXers/Contesters magazine which is
quite evident if you look at the magazine content over the space of
several months. Although I was extremely lucky in getting a two-part
QRP article published in CQ last year (March and July 1995), they do not
seem receptive to any further QRP articles (at least by yours
truly...somebody else might give this a try with better luck).

QST is trying to be "All things to all readers" as witnessed by their
addition of the New Ham's Companion section started several years ago.
This is a direct result of the tremendous influx of no code techs who
have not joined the League (much to the chagrin of the ARRL HQ staff and
Directors). QST will never have a monthly QRP column, and I was told by
Steve Ford, asst editor of QST, that "we've run enough QRP articles for a while,

so don't submit any in the near future". My reaction to this was: "There is no such thing as "too many QRP articles"".

Incase you live in a cave, QRPers are about the only facet of the hobby that is having FUN with radio. We need to spread the message.

Thanks for the soap box.

72 rich K7YHa

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Jerry <jfelts@rapidcity.com>
Subject: [771] RE:FS Argo 556-SOLD
Message-ID: <199607111741.LAA19596@host1.rapidcity.com>

The Argo 556 for sold less than 2 hours after posted. Thanks for all the replys.

Jerry

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: ori@HEA.COM (Ori Mizrahi-Shalom)
Subject: [786] RE: Jerry Parker & the Norcal Web Page
Message-ID: <9607112140.AA04594@timber.heava.com>

I visited the site again and it just keeps improving. Great job by Jerry Parker on the page in general and the meeting report in particular. With such nice pictures, it's plain dangerous! it's almost as good as the real thing...

ORI AC6AN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: iii@bighorn.dr.att.com
Subject: [767] Re: QRM from touch-sensitive lamp
Message-ID: <9607111624.AA25101@drmail.dr.att.com>

Hi Ray,

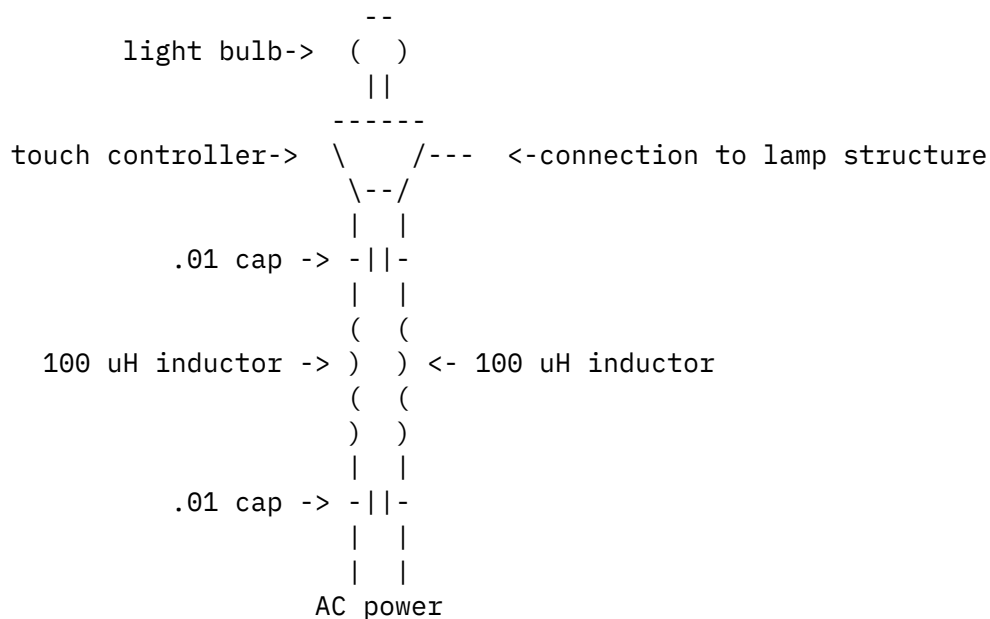
> QRM Gurus:

>

> I received the attached e-mail from Bob, AG8T a fellow worker here at

>Sun. Not having any experience with these touch-sensitive lamps,I was wondering
>if any of the qrp-l group had any insight into his problem.
>
> Thanks in advance for any help!
>
> 72's, Ray WB6TPU
> raymonda@radium.eng.sun.com

I had exactly the same problem for many years from the two touch control lamps
in my house before I figured out where it was coming from. I knew that the
triac inside the touch control generated switching noise, so I had built a
filter into the neck of the lamps to eleminate that noise.



This filter kept all noise from the touch controller from getting into the
AC lines so I had no reason to suspect it as the source of the other noise that
was wiping out the 80 meter HF band.

> The audio of the noise sounds a bit like the strong 60 Hz buzz that I hear
> when I tune in a TV video signal on my VHF scanner in the AM mode.

This is exactly what my noise sounded like. Since it sounded like baseband
video and was the same frequency as baseband video covering the entire 80 meter
band and abruptly ending at the top of the band, I assumed it was baseband
video radiating from a TV somewhere in the neighborhood. But it was there for
years and years and never went away. So I thought it must be coming from the
neighborhood power lines that ran up the block in the backyard.

While listening to other Hams in the Denver area talk about their local QRM
problems, I noted one characteristic of their local QRM that was different from

mine; their local QRM was always changing over time. Mine never changed, it was always the same. That was the clue. It occurred to me that the most consistant thing in my neighborhood all these years was *me*. Could that noise be coming from me?

I went to my first suspicion and unplugged all the TV's in my house. No change. I then started unplugging everything else until I got to the touch control lamps which I had decided could not possible be the source of the problem. Bingo! Aaagghhhhhh!!! All these years it was me!

> The signal is being carried into my room from the electric wiring rather
> than from direct radiation, as far as I can tell.

Nope. It is being directly radiated from the structure of the lamp which is connected to the touch control. My filter tells me that much. I took apart a touch-controller to see what I could do about it. In addition to the triac there is a custom IC and a bunch of discrete passive components, but no inductors. The custom IC makes it impossible to determine exactly how it works, but the small capacitor coupled link to the lamp structure tells me that it is probably oscillating at a high untuned and unfiltered frequency. I haven't looked at it on a scope yet.

The good news is now I have a whole new band (80 meters) to play with.

Hope my experience is of some help.

Gabe Sellers
KG0NR
QRP-L #221
gsellers@lucent.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Raymond Sommers <rsommers@worf.uwsp.edu>
Subject: [780] Re: Results of the great BSA Troop 3 canoe trip
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.91.960711144154.10560A-100000@worf.uwsp.edu>

On Wed, 10 Jul 1996, Michael Herr wrote:

> The Great BSA Troop 3 Canoe Trip Report
>
> The great canoe trip is over and was a great success!

> NF0Z in Colorado (passed traffic for us)

>

> Any thoughts?

A long time ago I took a QRP rig (TenTec PM2b) on a canoe trip in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northeastern Minn. Since I had been active on the 80 meter Wis. SSB traffic net I warned the net that I would try to pass traffic via CW to my family at home in central Wis. Several messages were relayed for me and it was fun trying.

An article about the trip was published in the June 1976 CQ magazine but unfortunately the pictures sure didn't print very well. (over 20 years ago - yikes - and just completed another trip this year in May but now I just take it easy with the minimum stuff to portage).

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
| | | | |
|/\| |_) (/ the | ,ittle | \ ilowatt \ , uster (Wisc.)
~ ~ ~ ~ ~
~ ~ ~ ~ ~
from ~

Ray Sommers, rsommers@worf.uwsp.edu

WB9LKC QRP-L #8-)

qrp ARCI #3816

NorCal #1423

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996

From: DCrespy@aol.com

Subject: [792] Re: Results of the great BSA Troop 3 canoe trip

Message-ID: <960711210329_356375695@emout18.mail.aol.com>

Mike,

About your comments on rig layout for portable operation..

> After this and other trips I think a different kind of rig might
> be called for. Consider this. The rig should have it's controls on the top
> surface, not the side. The side is fine for putting the rig on a shelf but
> in the field many times the rig is on the ground, the person sitting above
> it. It would be nice not to have so many peripherals, i.e. battery, keys,
> etc. All of these should be mounted in the box it's self. The box should be
> self closing. What I mean is that a lid should close off the box, with out
> connectors in the side. The lid could contain the antenna and earphones. On
> the top surface of the rig, after the lid is removed, is the controls,
> keys, antenna connections, etc. Any thoughts?

I think you have "struck a cord".. I guess we get preoccupied with having our rigs look like commercial gear, and loose track of how we use them. I have thought before about putting one in an old "ammo-box"..It would seal everthing up tight when closed.....I'm building a GM 30 kit this weekend.. Maybe???

Thanks for the new perspective.

Harry KG5LO

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: k7yha@juno.com (richard h. arland)
Subject: [791] Re: Re[2]: 73 Magazine SK ?
Message-ID: <19960712.004731.4615.3.k7yha@juno.com>

On Thu, 11 Jul 96 17:07:31 PST lhalliday@creo.bc.ca writes:

>Most other countries have much lower amateur power limits, so it's not
>that far from QRO to QRP...

>

>Laura Halliday VE7LDH	"C'est une femme mutine, assez
>lhalliday@creo.bc.ca	elegante, grave et legere, ayant le
>ve7ldh@amsat.org	sens du confort et du plaisir
>Locator: CN89mg	en tout." - C. Deneuve

>

Laura:

Having lived overseas in Japan, the Azores and England for extended periods of time, I know all about the lower power limits imposed in other countries and I applaude their decisions to limit RF output power in the amateur service.

However, even in conservative, "play by the rule book" England, most of the DXers and contersters of national or international fame used far in excess of the authorized 400 watt maximum power authorization. As a matter of fact, a world class contest station that shall remain nameless routinely ran 1 KW linears on all bands during major contests. The station engineer's reply to my query about exceeding the legal limit imosed by the GPO was something to the effect; "What's 4 or 5 dB among friends?".

One thing that REALLY burns QRO types up is the fact that many QRP DXers work the same DX and bust the same pileups as the Big Guns using 5 watts or less. Maybe it is more than a little embarrassing for these QRO types to have to admit that their operating skills are not what they should

be.

72 rich K7YHA

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <HDHETLAND@paccd.cc.ca.us>
Subject: [782] Re: Shear madness, guy hardware
Message-ID: <71E87A4801@manage.paccd.cc.ca.us>

> I also found a shear in the McMaster-Carr (1990) Catalog,
> another "soup-to-nuts" industrial supply place.

.....

> McMaster Carr Supply Co
> POB 440
> New Brunswick, NJ 08903
> (201) 329-3200

McMaster Carr Supply Co. is also a good source for some guying hardware. I purchased Nicropress clips at substantial savings over the local hardware store, galvanized 3/16" thimbles (no longer available from some vendors) and a quality block (pulley) for 1/2" fiber rope. They will take plastic and ship UPS.

73, Harvey, N6MM.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Roger Hightower <roger.hightower@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [793] Re: Tmps Reporting Via Web Page
Message-ID: <31E5A67D.1B5D@worldnet.att.net>

Bob White wrote:

>

>

> I had a nice chat with Nick, KF2PH on 30 meters this morning. I was
> running 400mW and Nick was running 800mW. No big deal right? How
> about the fact that Nick was on Long Island running mobile!

>

> I thought it was a big deal, but Nick was not all that impressed. He
> had worked both VC2AW and DL8MX the evening before while running
> mobile at the same power level. Now that is impressive!

>

> Just goes to show you what you can do with a SW30 and a hamstick.

>

> Way to go Nick.
>
> For Dit Dit:
>
> I might not have been reporting, but I have not been inactive.
>
> Check out [HTTP://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/5582](http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/5582) for my current
> W03B 1996 400mW TMPS report.
>
> 72 to all,
>
> Bob White W03B WASTP=41.88W
>
> TMPS (I'll let ya check the homepage)
>
> Man, this is COOL! Hypertext embedded in an e-mail....click that baby
and check the page out.

Nice going, Bob.

72/73, de Roger AA7QY

--

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Steve Miller <kg7pv@teleport.com>
Subject: [761] RE: Walking Paddle Tip
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960711151409.0066dc0c@mail.teleport.com>

>Hi there guys and gals. I have discovered a cheap and fairly neat way
>to keep your paddles/bugs from walking around the table top. Take
>just a small spot of Coax Seal and place it on at least one foot of
>the key. I have used this on bugs, Vibroplex paddles, Brown Bros.
>paddles and Nye Viking paddles. Seems to work on all of them. The
>Coax Seal will also come right off when no longer needed.
>
I just use a big mouse pad. Paddle will not slip or move in any way and
makes a nice soft surface for my hand :-)

73

Steve Miller (CN-85) Norcal #308 QRP-L #109 (packet
kg7pv@k7iqi.or.usa.noam)
Oak Hills Spirit II, ant is 40 mtr dipole fed w/ladder line @ 45 feet
-
KG7PV TMPS 1996 Qs=23 States=13 Confirmed=0 Dx=02

AK CA CO KS NC NE NM PA SD TX UT VA WV JW OZ

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: [763] Re: Walking Paddle Tip
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960711083514.11451A-1000000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

On Wed, 10 Jul 1996, Phil Sikes wrote:

> just a small spot of Coax Seal and place it on at least one foot of

I use a small piece of that shelf liner that is sold to keep glass cups and etc from sliding around. Works good and nothing to clean up if you want to move the key.

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Jul 11 23:14:34 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nfld.com>
Subject: [787] Re: Walking Paddle Tip
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960711213956.00a9cbe0@public.compusult.nf.ca>

All Right Gang,

If you want to go REAL QRP first class with a "stop-your-key-from-walking" then get one of those NEW expensive 3M (tm) Precise Mousing Surface pads. Paper thin pad with tiny tiny microscopic grooves that keep your mouse - I MEAN KEY - clean and working well. Why heck it even doubles as a mouse pad if you are not on the air with your key (like right now...)

Cheers Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 12:30 7/11/96 EDT, you wrote:

>

>>Hi there guys and gals. I have discovered a cheap and fairly neat way
>>to keep your paddles/bugs from walking around the table top. Take
>>just a small spot of Coax Seal and place it on at least one foot of
>>the key. I have used this on bugs, Vibroplex paddles, Brown Bros.
>>paddles and Nye Viking paddles. Seems to work on all of them. The

>>Coax Seal will also come right off when no longer needed.

>

>

> > > I just use a big mouse pad. Paddle will not slip or move in any way and

> > > makes a nice soft surface for my hand :-)

73

| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |

| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |

| Internet: rgobrick@nfld.com |

| bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |

Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com